Capacity expansion and infrastructural development for leather industry

*232. SHR T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether leather industry has presented a plan for support for capacity expansion and infrastructural development for export growth; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH):(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Realizing the strength of leather sector the Government of India had drawn up an ambitious plan for providing impetus to all segments of this industry for the 10th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 400 crore towards implementation of various plan schemes under the "Indian Leather Development Programme" (ILDP). The ILDP comprises of two programmes, *viz.*, "Integrated Development of Leather Sector" (IDLS) and "Infrastructure Strengthening of Leather Sector" (ISLS). IDLS is a comprehensive scheme for modernization and technology upgradation in all the segments of the leather industry. The aim of the ISLS Scheme is to provide infrastructure facilities and capacity building in the leather sector. Government remains committed to support further development of the leather sector in the country, within the available resources during the XI Plan as well.

Communal riots

*233 SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been a number of communal riots in various parts of the country during December, 2006 and January, 2007 and the Centre had deputed a team of experts to make on-the-spot assessment of the situation in those areas;

(b) if so, what were the main points mentioned by the team;

(c) what were the main causes of communal riots; and

(d) to what extent the Centre helped in bringing the situation under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) During the period December 2006 and January 2007 no major communal riot occurred in the country. However, in connection with the communal violence in Gorakhpur and surrounding areas in Uttar Pradesh following the death of a Hindu youth in a clash between a Hindu marriage party and Muslim Muharram processionists on 26.01.2007, Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal, Mininster of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs visited Gorakhpur on 1.2.2007 for an assessmet of the situation. He held a meeting with the State authorities including District Magistrate and SSP, Gorakhpur and IG Police, Gorakhpur zone at the Gorakhpur airport it was informed that the situation was tense but under control. The State authorities also informed that curfew was imposed in areas of four police stations (Kotwali, Rajghat, Tiwaripur and Gorakhnath) and advised him not to visit the curfew-bound areas. He was also informed that they had sufficient requisite forces to take care of the situation. MOS (Home) advised the authorities to take all possible steps in order to restore peace and tranquility at the earlies. He also assured them that the Centre would provide all possible help required by the State Government in this regard. In order to control the situation, apart from the State Police, Union Government made available 11 companies of Rapid Action Force, 6 companies of Central Reserve Police Force and 5 companies of Shasastra Seema Bal to the State Government for deployment in affected areas.

Strengthening of social Infrastructure in SEZs

*234. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many SEZs, have been approved by Government so far, State-wise details thereof;

(b) how many have been commissioned among them;

(c) what percentage of areas in each of the functioning SEZ is being used for manufacturing/processing purposes;